

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONO HI IMMEDIATE

INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CINCPACREP PHILIPPINES IMMEDIATE

13AF CLARK AB PHILIPPINES IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 129444

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: SECURITY OF US BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES

REF: (A) CINCPAC 282205Z MAY 77 (B) MANILA 8493

1. RECENT INCIDENTS INVOLVING USE OF PATROL DOGS IN CONTROLLING INCURSIONS AT CLARK AND SUBIC AGAIN RAISE BROADER ISSUE OF EXTENT OF PHILIPPINE ROLE IN BASE SECURITY. THIS IS A QUESTION WHICH HAS BEEN ADDRESSED IN THE PAST ON A CONTINUING BASIS BY BASE COMMANDERS AND ALSO HAS FIGURED PROMINENTLY IN BASE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. WE ENCOURAGE EFFORTS OF EMBASSY MANILA AND US MILITARY
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AUTHORITIES TO RESOLVE THE RECENT PROBLEM INVOLVING USE OF DOGS AND TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PHILIPPINE OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE. A REVIEW OF OUR OVERALL BASE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS COMES AT A PARTICULARLY OPPORTUNE TIME AS THE US APPROACH TO NEGOTIATIONS IS UNDER FORMAL REVIEW. WE AWAIT CINCPAC PROPOSALS (REFTEL A) FOR CLOSER COOPERATION WITH GOP IN BASE SECURITY FIELD AND WILL CONSIDER DEGREE TO WHICH WE

MIGHT PROCEED WITH SUCH PROPOSALS UNDER VARIOUS NEGOTIATING SCENARIOS.

3. MEANWHILE, EMBASSY AND BASE COMMANDERS, WORKING IN CLOSE LIAISON, SHOULD CONTINUE TO RESOLVE CURRENT GUARD DOG PROBLEM AND TO CONCENTRATE ON US BASE REQUIREMENTS WHICH ARE NOW AROUSING SPECIFIC PHILIPPINE SENSITIVITIES WITHOUT ATTEMPTING TO RESOLVE BROADER SECURITY RESPONSIBILITIES WITH PHILIPPINES UNTIL WE DETERMINE APPROPRIATE TIME AND FORUM FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS. CONTINUING ACTIVE COMMUNICATION AMONG THE VARIOUS USG INTERESTED PARTIES IN ADVANCE OF ANY TALKS WITH GOP OFFICIALS SHOULD AVOID PROBLEMS IN DISTINGUISHING THESE TWO AREAS.

4. FOR CHARGE STULL: AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST, WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE GOP TO ELIMINATE SOURCES OF FRICTION BUT PHILIPPINES COULD DEMONSTRATE ITS INTEREST IN MATTER BY, FOR EXAMPLE, LIMITING "REVOLVING DOOR" TREATMENT OF INTRUDERS WE APPREHEND. YOU SHOULD LIMIT YOUR DISCUSSION WITH ROMULO TO POINTS A & B PARA 3 REFTEL B AND AVOID BROADER DISCUSSIONS ALONG LINES SUGGESTED IN POINT C. CHRISTOPHER

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